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RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors: Ecker, Griffey, Sampath, Hofstadler, McNell, and Crooke

Serial No.: 09/891,793

Group Art Unit: 1631

Filed: June 26, 2001

Examiner: A. Marschel

Title: A Secondary Structure Defining Database And Methods For Determining Identity
And Geographic Origin Of An Unknown Bioagent Thereby

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On 15 April 2004

Paul K. Lagaard Reg. No. 38,834

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

In response to the Final Rejection mailed March 9, 2004 in connection with the above-identified patent application, Applicants respectfully request that the application be amended as follows.